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NEWS RELEASE

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March 13, 2001

Contact: Jerry Esmay, UM Department of Computer Science director, or Linda DeMinck, assistant director, (406) 243-2866.

MONTANA SCIENCE FAIR SET FOR APRIL 1-3 AT UM

MISSOULA —

The 46th annual Montana Science Fair will be held April 1-3 at The University of Montana Adams Center. The public is invited to view displays by some of the state's brightest young people from 6:30 to 9 p.m. Monday, April 2, and from 8 to 11 a.m. Tuesday, April 3.

High school students in grades nine through 12 will compete for prizes in 14 categories that range from biochemistry and mathematics to gerontology and computer science. Two- or three-member teams also compete in any category.

Students in grades six through eight compete in physical and biological science categories within their respective grade levels.

Judging takes place from 1 to 6:30 p.m. April 2. Prizes will be awarded at 10 a.m. April 3 in the University Theatre.

The top two Grand Award winners and top Grand Award team in the high school category – Division I – will win gold medals and an expense-paid trip to the INTEL International Science and Engineering Fair, scheduled for May 6-12 in San Jose, Calif. The top award winners in the seventh- and eighth-grade categories will receive silver and bronze medals.

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The Montana Science Fair is sponsored by UM with support from the UM Excellence Fund and the Missoula Exchange Club. It was founded in 1955 by Rueben Diettert, professor emeritus of botany. Diettert directed the fair for 18 years.

Student registration forms must be received by no later than 5 p.m. March 16 except for students who participate in qualifying fairs after this date. Their registration forms will be due by noon the day after their fairs. The registration fee is \$10 per student.

For more information, contact fair director Jerry Esmay or assistant director Linda DeMinck by calling (406) 243-2866 or e-mail lad@cs.umt.edu. Their address is Department of Computer Science, Social Science Building Room 401, The University of Montana, Missoula, MT 59812-5256.

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